ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

NATIONAL SITUATIONAL REPORT

DATE: 2022-02-17, current as of 16h00

KEY POINTS

- Media coverage is focusing on the increased presence of Ottawa Police Service (OPS) and other law enforcement partners in downtown Ottawa, including the erection of fences around Parliament and the Senate.[1]
- Based on perceived success at Coutts (Alberta), information was found that individuals have discussed disrupting/blocking cargo terminals at Canadian airports.[2]
- Multiple events are planned for 2022-02-19 and 2022-02-21 across the country.[3]

MINISTERS PRESS CONFERENCE

- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Public Safety, Hon. Marco Mendicino, and President of the Queen's Privy Council and Minister of Emergency Preparedness, Hon. Bill Blair held a press conference on 2022-02-17. Chrystia Freeland advised financial service providers have already taken action and the impact will grow in the coming days.[4]

EMERGENCIES ACT

- The Orders in Council have been published in the Canada Gazette at the following links: Canada Gazette, Part II: Volume 156 - Canada.ca and Canada Gazette, Part II.

ALBERTA

- Based on perceived success at Coutts (Alberta), information was found that individuals have discussed disrupting/blocking cargo terminals at Canadian airports.[5]
- The 13 individuals arrested on 2022-02-14 have been charged with a variety of Criminal Code offenses, including mischief over $5000.00 and, conspiracy to commit murder.[6]

BRITISH COLUMBIA

- An online petition has been created calling on the City of Victoria to enforce noise bylaws during planned demonstrations on the weekend of 2022-02-19 at the Legislative Assembly of BC.[7]

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

- There is a visible increase in police presence in downtown Ottawa. Police resources continue to deliver notices to the demonstrators to vacate the downtown area. In addition, police are limiting access to the downtown core. [8]
- As of the morning of 2022-02-17, fences are being set up in front of government buildings including Parliament and the Senate. [9]

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NOVA SCOTIA

- RCMP continue to investigate the delivery of suspicious packages to Constituency Offices in Southwestern Nova Scotia. The packages started arriving on 2022-02-07 and have been delivered to political offices in Meteghan, Liverpool, Yarmouth, Kentville and Kingston. The packages to date have all been tested locally and while police have identified the presence of a substance, the substance does not contain any chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or explosive agents. The investigation is ongoing. It is unknown at this time if this is related to the ongoing demonstrations. [10]

ONTARIO

- In the morning of 2022-02-13, a truck and trailer containing over 2000 firearms had been stolen from a Peterborough trucking company. The truck was recovered on 2022-02-14 while the trailer was located on 2022-02-16. Peterborough police indicated that 13 firearms are missing from the original inventory.[11][12]

Windsor (Ambassador Bridge)

- The POE is open and traffic flow as normal. A total of 44 arrests have been made, and a total 88 charges ranging from Breaching a Court Order to Mischief Over $5000.[13]
- Police stopped a convoy of transport trucks, believed to be heading to Windsor from Ottawa. It has since circled back, travelling eastbound on Highway 401.[14]

QUEBEC

- The Mayor of Quebec City has given new powers to its police force to control traffic and prevent the consumption of alcohol ahead of a planned protest at the National Assembly of Quebec starting on 2022-02-19.[15]

Approved for dissemination: 2022-02-17

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[1] https://ottawa.ctvnews.ca/ottawa-police-start-limiting-access-to-downtown-issue-new-warning-to-convoy-protesters-1.5784834 , 2022-02-17

[2] https://globalnews.ca/news/8621733/coutts-blockaders-discussed-blocking-airport-cargo-terminals-private-threat-assessment/ , 2022-02-17

[3] https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/ottawa-police-pledge-action-as-protests-approach-4th-straight-weekend-1.5785073 , 2022-02-17

[4] https://globalnews.ca/video/8627701/the-consequences-are-real-freeland-says-action-has-begun-on-cutting-off-convoy-funds/ fed, 2022-02-17

[5] https://globalnews.ca/news/8621733/coutts-blockaders-discussed-blocking-airport-cargo-terminals-private-threat-assessment/ , 2022-02-17

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[6] https://www.nationalobserver.com/2022/02/17/news/arrests-weapons-seized-alberta-border-greater-safety-concerns-canada , 2022-02-17
[7] https://www.cheknews.ca/petition-asks-city-of-victoria-to-enforce-noise-traffic-bylaws-during-weekend-convoy-protests-954380/ , 2022-02-17
[8] Police increase presence in downtown Ottawa as occupation nears 4th weekend | CBC News
[9]https://ottawa.ctvnews.ca/ottawa-police-start-limiting-access-to-downtown-issue-new-warning-to-convoy-protesters-1.5784834 , 2022-02-17
[10] https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/news/2022/update-rcmp-investigation-suspicious-packages-delivered-constituency-offices, 2022-02-17
[11] https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2022/02/16/police-recover-missing-weapons-from-peterborough-truck-robbery-in-peel-region.html , 2022-02-17
[12] https://www.ptbotoday.ca/2022/02/17/inventory-check-shows-13-guns-missing-from-stolen-truck-trailer/ , 2022-02-17
[13] https://lfpress.com/news/local-news/is-another-ambassador-bridge-border-blockade-possible , 2022-02-17
[14] https://lfpress.com/news/local-news/is-another-ambassador-bridge-border-blockade-possible , 2022-02-17
[15] https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/quebec-city-new-rules-protest-1.6354826 , 2022-02-17

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